

August 24, 2012

# Weekly Views

The Indiana Horseman's Benevolent and Protection Association (INHBPA) donated \$15,000 to the Indiana Chapter of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and Equine Management program at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. INHBPA is an organization of owners, breeders and trainers committed to the future of horse racing and the protection of horses.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Correctional Police Officer and Internal Affairs Staff member Jeremiah Norris received a tremendous honor. Jeremiah serves as a member of the PCF K-9 Operation and was selected along with his explosives detection K-9 Hanni to search areas at Grissom Air Force Base prior to the landing of the presidential jet. Congratulations to Jeremiah and Hanni for being selected for this prestigious assignment! (see photo below)

PEN Products Doug Evans and Lisa Williams presented a workshop at the American Parole & Probation Association conference in Indianapolis. The workshop focused on Correctional Industries (CI) and the role it plays in re-entry. Parole and Probation officers were encouraged to seek information from their clients as to their CI experience and how to utilize it as a tool in obtaining employment post-release.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) donated a dollhouse to the Larue D. Carter Memorial Hospital. Recreation Clerk Resident Tim Spratt spent several months building the home and refining artistic details. He revamped the donated dollhouse to include hardwood floors, hand-cut shingles for the roof, and hand-made wallpaper and accessories. Along with IREF Recreation Director Chad Platt, Resident Spratt delivered the dollhouse to Larue Carter's youth units where it will be utilized in supervised play and as a tool during therapeutic activities for children who may have experienced traumatic events.

Branchville Correctional Facility held its annual old fashioned Tent Revival. Over 200 offenders attended each of the 11 sessions. Over 20 volunteers and countless staff helped make this event possible. Saturday's session will mark the end of the event with over 70 family members expected to attend and share in the offenders' spiritual growth.

Westville Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Levenhagen has proudly announced the promotion of Randall Earhart to Correctional Captain. Captain Earhart began his career in the Department in 1982, and has held numerous positions at Westville and the Westville Control Unit. Captain Earhart currently serves as the facility's Assistant Shift Commander.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted a SITCON meeting for several team members from Miami Correctional Facility and Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). During the meeting a walk through was conducted at both the intake and treatment units of the Logansport Facility. ERO drills were reviewed and evaluated by the team members. Facility functions within the custody, treatment and education departments were evaluated so that the team members would better understand the operational function of the facility.

Wabash Valley staffed a booth at this year's Sullivan Night Out at the city park. Over 1,400 people stopped by, talking to WVCF Emergency Squad, Fire Department and Custody staff who passed out ALERT flyers. The Wabash display also featured a facility offender transport vehicle. The event is designed to improve relations between law enforcement and the community.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) hosted a blood drive sponsored by the Indiana Blood Center (IBC). A total of 37 staff were a part of the life saving network of donors whose generosity helps meet the need of more than 60 hospitals in Indiana. Donna Burke, Training Department Secretary, coordinated the drive by working with staff and IBC to ensure this drive was a success for those in need. After staff gave their donation, Donna made sure each donor and the center's staff received grilled hot dogs and beverages for the efforts. Superintendent McCauley was a donor and thanks every IWP staff that participated in the Blood Drive.

The Northwest Jaycees, an offender organization at the Indiana State Prison, donated \$1000 each to the Make a Wish Foundation and Ronald McDonald House. The offenders raised the money by having food sales for the offender population. The food sales consist of vendors such as King Gyros, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Rally's to name a few.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) announces the graduation of 31 offenders from the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program. During the graduation ceremony, family and friends of the graduates helped to celebrate this accomplishment. The invocation was given by Deputy Director of Religious and Volunteer Services David Liebel which was then followed by an inspirational speech by Chaplain Keith Blackburn from the Indianapolis Re-entry & Education Facility.

